

In Memoriam

Andrew Fine Berr,

1853—1915.

Biographical Sketch.

Memorial Service.

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Andrew Fine Derr.

The following Biographical Sketch was printed in the Wilkes-Barre Record of November 20, 1915.

With the death of Andrew Fine Derr, last night at 9:45 o'clock, in the sixty-third year of his age, Wilkes-Barre has lost one of her most loyal and progressive citizens. In spite of ill-health, which grew into enforced invalidism during the last year of his life, Mr. Derr has been unsparing of himself in the service of others. His singularly clear judgment and shrewd mastery of detail, made his advice valuable both for public affairs and for matters personal and confidential. He had a heart at leisure for the joys and for the sorrows of others, and a personal rectitude and simplicity that was unquestioned. His Christianity was of the sort that made for sincerity and purity and justice towards others, and for a generous and faithful adherence to duty. He could be depended on to do more than he was asked, and to accomplish more than he promised.

HIS ANCESTRY.

The Derr (Dörr) and Fine ancestry is traced to Johannes Moelich of Bernsdorf on the Rhine, Germany, who married Maria Cathrina, daughter of Burgomaster Gottfried Kirburger. The family emigrated to America, landing at Philadelphia on May 29, 1735. A few years later he bought a large tract of land in what is now Warren county, New Jersey, abutting on the Delaware river. He established the first tannery in the province, but sold it and bought other land at Bedminster, Somerset county, where he built a substantial stone homestead. A mill and tannery established here by him were kept in operation for over 100 years.

Johannes was a prominent Lutheran. There were ten children in the family. One of these, Andrew, was commissioned captain of the First Sussex (New Jersey) Regiment in 1776, and he served through the Revolution. He had five children. A granddaughter, Hannah, married John Dörr (Derr), descendent of Heinrich Dörr, who emigrated from Germany in 1742. The Derrs were among the 30,000 German Protestants who were expelled from the Palatinates in the early part of the eighteenth century. Johan Heinrich Dörr was one of these. His son, Jacob, served through the Revolution in General Anthony Wayne's regiment. Michael, eldest son of Jacob, was an 1812 soldier, and reared a family of ten children, and died at a very old age in Bucks county, Penn'a. John Derr, eldest son of Michael, married Hannah Fine. To these were born five children, one of whom was Andrew Fine Derr.

All of John and Hannah (Fine) Derr's family were born in Bucks county, Penn'a, except Andrew Fine Derr, who was born on Sunday, May 29, 1853, at the old Derr farm, one and one-half miles from Kline's Grove, Northumberland county, Penn'a, on the road to Sunbury. He was the fifth and last child of his parents. He lived with them near Kline's Grove until they died in April, 1864. His mother died on April 2, and his father on April 26, 1864, the latter at the residence of his married daughter, Mary Catherine Richter, in Selinsgrove, Snyder county, Penn'a, who was the wife of John P. Richter, and had been married since 1856, and was the only daughter of her parents. Mr. Richter became Andrew's guardian, and took him to live with him for about seven years.

GRADUATE OF LAFAYETTE.

Andrew went to the Missionary Institute, now Susquehanna University, at Selinsgrove during that time, and from there entered Lafayette College in the fall of 1871, where

he took a classical course, and graduated in the class of 1875, after which he took a post graduate course of one year in German, French and English Literature, under Professor Bloombergh.

In the fall of 1876 he entered the law office of George W. Biddle at Philadelphia, and was admitted to the Philadelphia and Luzerne county Bars in 1878, and has been a member of the Luzerne county Bar ever since. Mr. Biddle was at that time considered the head of the Philadelphia Bar, and had twelve or fifteen students in his office.

In the fall of 1882, owing to his brother Thompson's health (then the head of the insurance firm of Thompson Derr & Bro. of Wilkes-Barre), he entered that firm, as well as assisted his brother in various ways, and gradually dropped out of the active practice of law. Subsequently he became enlisted in a number of insurance and local corporations, stockholder, director, etc.

HAD WIDE INTERESTS.

He became a director of the Miners Savings Bank, subsequently vice president and president; director and vice president of the Anthracite Savings Bank; director of the Sheldon Axle Works, and member of the executive committee of that company; director of the Hanover Fire Insurance Co., of New York City, and chairman of its finance committee; director of the Franklin Fire Insurance Company and chairman of its executive committee; trustee of the Wyoming Historical & Geological Society; director of the Osterhout Free Library; director of City Hospital; president of the Board of Trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association; secretary and trustee of the Home for Friendless Children; original member of the Westmoreland Club; member of the University Club of New York City, and the Lawyers' Club of New York City; elder and trustee in Memorial Presbyterian Church; member of the

Presbyterian Historical Society of Philadelphia, and Archeological Institute of America; also member of the Grolier Club of New York City; the Prince Society of Boston; the American Economic Society; the American Bar Association; the Pennsylvania Historical Society; the Pennsylvania-German Society; the Sons of the American Revolution; the Sons of the American Revolution of New Jersey, and the Society of the War of 1812.

On June 23, 1896, he was married in Philadelphia to Harriet Lowrie, daughter of Rev. Dr. Samuel T. Lowrie and Elizabeth Dickson Lowrie. To them were born four children: Elizabeth Lowrie, Kathrine Dickson, Thompson and Andrew F., Jr.

HEAD OF NOTABLE FIRM.

The firm of Thompson Derr & Bro. is widely known as one of the largest general insurance agencies in the country, having been in business at Wilkes-Barre since 1858, when the firm was founded by the late Thompson Derr. It has represented for the State of Pennsylvania for many years the Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company of Philadelphia; the Hanover Fire Insurance Company of New York; the Franklin Fire Insurance Company, of Philadelphia; the County Fire Insurance Company, of Philadelphia; the Scottish Union & National Insurance Company, of Edinburgh; the State Assurance Company, of Liverpool, and as general agents of many other companies.

The mere cataloging of organizations with which Mr. Derr has for years been affiliated, indicates a man prominent in much of the business, religious, charitable and social concerns of the community. His name is certainly to be "writ large" in the latter day history of Wyoming Valley. His greatest attention was given to the insurance firm with which he had been connected from young manhood, as the

youngest of the three brothers whose family name designated the business. As the eldest, Thompson Derr, and the second, Henry H. Derr, passed away, the burdens of the active direction fell upon the shoulders of A. F. Derr. He carried this burden for many years, adding to it the heavy responsibilities indicated in his working directorship of the Hanover Fire Insurance Company, which duty called him frequently to New York City. In the distinguished Board of Directors of this old line concern, it is hardly too much to say that no individual represented greater value in experience and counsel than he. He was, in fact, a prominent and leading factor in the company.

Here in Wilkes-Barre his influence was strong in commercial circles, and for many years he was the directing head of the Miners Bank, and was one of those who actively promoted the merger which allied to the Miners the large clientele of the Anthracite Bank, and which movement has further resulted in the combination of these two with the People's Bank. Much of the credit for the establishment of so tremendously potent a financial force must be given to the active energy and keen business insight of Mr. Derr. And though many prominent business enterprises had a share of his attention, and claimed his services as director, the two named were his closest and largest interests.

He was one of the small coterie that saw the great good of developing the Country Club life, and when these institutions had in America just started, he, with the few others, brought the Wyoming Valley Country Club into being, and selected its site on the historical and beautiful Inman's Hill, in Hanover township, overlooking the entire valley north and south. For a long time he served on its board, either as president or director.

LOYAL AND SACRIFICING.

The regret of his friends is that though he was the one most interested in conserving the physical welfare of others, he allowed the responsibility of many matters to weigh himself down until his vitality could no longer respond. Not a well man through the years he remained hard at work until he actually broke beneath the strain. Though fond of nature and of sports and relaxation, he never gave himself any of the proportion of the enjoyment in them that was so richly his due. All this came, of course, from his particularly strong and dominant sense of individual responsibility. His was a nature that could sacrifice for others and those who knew him best recognized most intimately—his loyalty. Whether it was business, social relationship, or devotion to the interests of the less fortunate, he was the soul of loyalty and of steadfastness. And this loyalty, coupled as it was with keen discernment, the value of experience and observation, and a mind of unusual quality, made him, among friends, and among those who knew him in any degree, a man of high standing and of worthy quality, and one entitled to distinction.

Perhaps with such as he the trait of concentration and devotion to his larger interests, made him conspicuously a business man before all else. And yet there was also an unusual blend here of a successful and absorbed business man, and also one having by instinct, or by taking the time to cultivate, or both, the things that delight our leisure and that add color to life. Mr. Derr was fond of the arts. He was a connoisseur in books, both as to their contents and their outward guise. His splendid library, collected with discrimination over a period of years, was comprehensive and well selected, and contained science, literature, biography and the standard fiction writers. He was always a reader, perhaps less as time yielded him grudging oppor-

tunity, but always in some degree a reader of the world's best thought both of the past and present, and always interested in the greater problems that concern the individual and the community and the family of nations. His mind, though absorbed in commercial matters, never grew narrow, but held itself fertile for the high suggestions.

STEADFAST AND TRUE.

As a friend he was true as needle to pole, and to his particular circle of intimates his loss is irreparable. And though he judged men by certain standards more or less rigid, for his views, many of them were rigid, he was capable of the kindest judgments, of the largest sympathies, and he had the grace of being able to put the best instead of the worst construction on human conduct. For a man of his intensely strong convictions, he alienated no friend, but was respected the more because he was steadfast.

Such men as A. F. Derr and the men of the same distinguished name, are among those who have given lustre to the citizenship of Wyoming Valley. Their names represent devotion to ideals, worthy standards of living, and their influence has added a tremendous force to the vitality of a wholesome public opinion. The loss of such is a heavy loss and leaves a large void.

Memorial Service

Memorial Presbyterian Church,

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania,

Sunday, December 12th, 1915,

Half past ten o'clock,

The Memorial Service.

The Responsive Reading was the One hundred and Forty-fifth Psalm.

The Hymns used were :

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty.”

“Jerusalem the Golden, with milk and honey blest.”

“Ten thousand times ten thousand,
In sparkling raiment bright.”

The Scripture portion read was the Third Chapter of Ephesians.

The Choir Selections were :

“That Better Land”.....*Wilson*

“Face to Face.....*Johnson*

The Organ Prelude and Postlude :

“Largo”*Handel.*

“Allegro Maestoso”.....*Stainer.*

The Sermon was on “The Brotherhood of the Resurrection.”
Colossians 3:1-2. Ephesians 3:14-15.

It dwelt simply upon the truth that as disciples of Jesus we may take our immortality for granted, and, accordingly, we are bound to be concerned about, to set our affections on, things above. * * * If we do so, whatever the mystical future may have to reveal, we need have no fear, because our loves, our reverent conjectures, are already in tune with the music of God’s House. * * *

If to-day we rejoice in the friendship of those living personalities who have passed through the change called death,

let us clasp hands in the Brotherhood of the Resurrection and feel its power, putting into it the meaning of the eternal, treating others, whatever their position or daily task, as with us in that fellowship—human souls with eternal relationships. * * *

Our Christian memory refuses to be content with a melancholy reflection over beautiful lives once lived here. We enroll them in this Brotherhood. And when we thus enlist them the Great Unknown is not a desert, empty place, but a land to which God brings his own that they may have larger space and fuller scope for the development of the powers which were entrusted to them here and which surely are not lost in the hereafter. * * * We remain one family in heaven and on earth, separated, but not divided.

At the close of the sermon, the Rev. A. J. Kerr, D. D., Pastor of the church, said: "I am particularly moved to the consideration of the truths which I have just spoken to you at this time because the Session of our church has taken action as follows:

In recording the death of the senior Elder of this church, Mr. Andrew Fine Derr, the Session of Memorial Presbyterian Church desires to place on record something more than a formal expression of its sorrow in the loss the church has sustained and of its appreciation of the life and services of our brother. Accordingly the Session adopts and orders spread on its records the following minute, and directs, in accordance with the suggestion of the Pastor, that the service on Sunday morning, December the twelfth, shall take the form of a Memorial of Mr. Derr, at which time this tribute shall be presented to the Congregation, and also that it shall be published in convenient form for the use of our people.

In the passing from earth of Mr. Derr, on November the

nineteenth, nineteen hundred and fifteen, Memorial Church has sustained a loss which we cannot expect to set forth in words. What he was to us personally and to this church we felt and realized, but the relationship was so comprehensive, so intimate, so filled with good that it must remain one of those sacred treasures which may not be openly, and could not be adequately described.

As a man of business the high ideals which seemed so natural to him and to which he clung so tenaciously and to which by consistent example he invited others, are well known throughout the business communities, near and far, in which the lines of his activities extended.

“There are in this loud stunning tide
Of human care and crime,
With whom the melodies abide
Of the everlasting chime;
Who carry music in their heart
Through dusky lane and wrangling mart,
Plying their daily task with busier feet
Because their secret souls a holy strain repeat.”

What he was in the many Societies and Associations and Organizations for the conservation and promotion of art and literature, science and learning, to which he gave both interest and co-operation, those associated with him in them will make loyal declaration.

It is of what he was in and to this church that we desire to bear our loving testimony.

On becoming a permanent resident of Wilkes-Barre he brought a certificate of his membership in the Brainerd Presbyterian Church of Easton, with which church he had united while a student in Lafayette College, and came into Memorial Church, April 8th, 1880, where he proved himself to be so earnest and true-hearted a Christian and so wise an adviser that he was unanimously elected Ruling Elder in the spring of 1887, and was ordained and entered upon

the activities of membership in the Session in July of that year; and during these twenty-eight years, up to the time of the illness which ended in his death, he continued to serve the church with an intelligence, a devotion and an unselfish love that never waned, and that awakened the liveliest gratitude in us all.

He was also early chosen a Trustee of the church, and was re-elected regularly at the expiration of each term of service; and all who have knowledge of the facts are aware that he gave without stint of his great business ability and trained judgment to the church and its affairs.

Mr. Derr possessed certain advantages which, rightly used, make for large things. Among these was a strong-minded, earnest-spirited ancestry, whose qualities he highly esteemed. It might truly be said that the history of the peoples from which he sprang, those godly Germans who were driven from the Palatinate because of their religious convictions, is one of the most precious assets of this nation and of the American Church. Their efforts to make the Gospel known, the Bible honored, the Commandments of God revered in the difficult times of early American history, were among the strong influences that gave to the United States the character of a Christian nation. Their children and children's children, brought up in serious thought and sober ways, have always been exponents of common-sense, peace and reverence in the land, and so have been strong factors in preserving stability and self-control in the nation. They have furnished many good men for the highest positions of honor and responsibility in both State and Nation.

Let it be understood at once that a commanding grasp of principles is at the very root of coherent character. The man who lives in whims and opinions and changing views will always be a weather vane, registering popular caprice. In every emergency which demands choice and decision he

will be found exposed to the peril of pleasing those who are round about him. He will do as others do just to please them. And that tendency will almost assuredly go with him into the wider interests of his business or profession. What is needed, then, is the possession of principles which will hold us, as though we were convicts, grasping us by the power of masterly conviction.

This heritage of inbred character Mr. Derr had accepted from his ancestry.

He had also the blessing of a careful Christian training. This training, which he loved to describe, seized him, held and ruled him through all his years. Never, perhaps, was any one more profoundly loyal to the lessons of the morning. He desired no better things than that the end of his life should circle round the beginning, only with a deeper conviction and a stronger love.

He enjoyed also the benefits of a broad classical college education under inspiring teachers. All these things enabled him to take large views of life and its problems, and gave point and strength to his efforts when he threw himself into the service of God and humanity.

His religious beliefs were clear, intelligent and decided. He was grounded in his youth in historical Christianity. He fed his mind on the great literature of the church, and was not to be driven from the anchorage of the faith which the Apostle declared is to be kept. He believed there are fixed and well-established facts and principles in religion as well as in business, and he was devoted to them. He delighted in the great hymns and in some of the splendid forms of prayer which are among the treasures of all branches of the Church, but his religion was never mechanical, rather it was drawn straight from the ever-sparkling fountain of the New Testament. He seemed to have a deep personal knowledge of God as He is revealed in Jesus Christ,

and his experience of religion was original and true. He lived to God first hand. He was thus able in speaking, in teaching, in praying, to open channels through which the healing blessings of God would flow into other hearts, like rivers in dry places. He drank from fountains older than any opened by man's hand, and for him they were always running fresh and clear.

It was this religious faith, and this only, which enabled him, and which will enable us, successfully to sustain the inevitable difficulties and conflicts and disappointments of life.

His sympathies were deep and went out widely. His heart was often wrung by the anxieties and needs of others, and he took an active part in relieving them. His giving to charitable and benevolent work was not perfunctory but full of human kindness and of the spirit of Him who came not to be ministered unto but to minister. And he knew that joy which consists in a personal satisfaction over some unselfish service that has lightened the heavy load or smoothed the rugged path for men and women and little children. And there is probably not a single worthy charitable or benevolent organization in this city which did not know his generous hand.

In his association with his brethren of the Session and of the Trustees he was ever found to be modest, courageous, chivalrous. His spirit was too generous to be soured, too large to be jealous if his particular policies did not prevail. He looked for the better side of persons and problems, and on that side he was sure to be ranged. "He opened his mouth with wisdom, and the law of kindness was in his lips." The hopeful temperament and the gracious manner which he always bore were not assumed, they were the outflow of the fountain of his heart. It is our universal feeling that there was no so blithe and friendly spirit

amongst us, and the dullest meeting was sure to be lit up by a glint of refined humor when he was present. His was a sunlike soul from the very depths of his being. There was no reservation of mind in him concerning questions of right and wrong, but he had quick sympathy and fine tact in leading others into his beliefs without compulsion. We found no hasty regrettable decisions coming from him. He seemed to know his own mind so thoroughly that he was able to give wise decisions on short notice, and he had the happy faculty of winning others to his point of view without controversy or display of arbitrary power.

To every member of the Church Boards his death is a personal bereavement. His never-failing courtesy of manner was united to firmness and decision of character and served to inspire confidence and unqualified respect.

He might well have boasted of lineage and training, but he was among the most truly democratic of men. He never allowed pride of intellect, or position, or wealth, or family, or successful business to stifle down the true love of his fellow-men.

As the years went on his heart seemed to grow fresher, larger, richer. He never pleaded: "I have no time, no talents, no money to spare." His giving was like the morning sunlight—it came so unostentatiously, so cheerfully, so quietly, so generously that, like the sun, he made "the place of his feet glorious". There was no place where he came, no line of activity or service into which he entered that was not helped and blest.

It was he who inaugurated the movement which resulted in the church's assuming the support of the two missionaries in the foreign field, whose names are carried on our church calendar. He began it by saying simply and characteristically: "I'm not giving enough to the work of Foreign Missions. I now propose to give—so much, and my wife

will add—so much. We would like to support a missionary on the field. How best can this be arranged?” His delight when he learned that other members of the church were awakened by this example to much larger giving than had been their custom was almost without measure. And then his modesty allowed his share in this matter to sink out of sight, and the whole to be credited to the church.

His interest in Foreign Missions, quickened doubtless by his affection for his relative by marriage, the Rev. Walter Lowrie of China, one of the foremost and most self-sacrificing men on the foreign field of any church in any land, did not, in his opinion, discharge his obligations to mission work. He was also the largest giver by far in our congregation to the cause of Home Missions. But of many of his gifts in this department he would allow no mention to be made.

His judgment in these matters, clearly formed and strongly held, as to the importance of these and other like causes of the church, might well be accepted by us as a criterion for our giving.

As a teacher in the Sunday School he was one of those forces that are felt rather than heard. He fully recognized the transcendent place the study of the Word of God should have in education, and the importance of getting its truths instilled into the minds and impressed on the hearts of the young. Although the precarious condition of his health during the last two or three years did not permit as active a part in the school as he desired, his influence abides, and his pupils, now, for the most part grown men, rejoice to speak of the affection which he inspired and the principles of right conduct which he exemplified.

His church loyalty was also shown in his regular attendance on the services of the House of God and at the weekly prayer meeting. He believed in them, magnified them, held them to be strong formative forces in the maintenance of a

true life. When in Wilkes-Barre, his health permitting, he was always in his place in the sanctuary. And there yet sound in the depths of our souls the simple, fervent, humble prayers that arose from his heart in the mid-week service.

Brethren of Memorial Church: who shall estimate the worth of having had such a life as that of Andrew Fine Derr's marching through the history of this church for thirty-five years! For our own good and for the sake of those who shall worship in this sanctuary when we shall have gone to our long home, we ought to allow such a strong, true, pervasive influence to have its due power amongst us, summoning us to lofty ideals, to nobler endeavors, to more self-sacrificing service.

He appreciated this church, its foundation in the love of children, and the noble spirits who put their best into it. He realized the Song which the Book of Numbers gives us—the Song of the Well—the well which princes and nobles dug with their scepters and their staves; he knew its meaning: that nobody was too high up to dig, and no tool was too precious to be used in providing for the people's good. We are again reminded that this church was founded and maintained by men and women of zeal, of high-born character, of unselfishness, of self-sacrifice, burning with a sincere desire for the good of others. To recall this and act upon it is to ennoble ourselves by associating ourselves with the worthy past, and will lead to the true estimation of the principles on which those who are gone fed their lives, even the Gospel of the grace of God, and will inspire us to endeavor so to live our lives that the work of our hands may be established, —yea, Lord, “the work of our hands, establish Thou it”.

With such memories, such associations, the work we are engaged in will not appear small or cheap. The opportunities and inspirations which Mr. Derr found in the Christian congregation and which brought him joy and strength, we

also may find here. Sometimes it may appear to us to be a routine. Well, of no other routine in life may we more justly say, princes digged this well of refreshment, nobles of the people delved it with their scepters and their staves.

Our beloved Elder fell on sleep while the evening lingered; for him the night never darkened down. The morning came, the sunlight which you and I have not yet seen was in his face, for as our splendid old Catechism declares: "The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness and do immediately pass into glory, and their bodies being still united to Christ do rest in their graves till the resurrection." And thus—

"Ten thousand times ten thousand,
In sparkling raiment bright,
The armies of the ransomed saints
Throng up the steeps of light;
'Tis finished, all is finished,
Their fight with death and sin;
Fling open wide the golden gates
And let the victors in."

**An Editorial in the Wilkes-Barre Record,
November 20, 1915.**

The death of Andrew F. Derr removes another citizen of sterling worth. Although he had no part in public life in the sense of holding office, he has left an impress that will remain as the memory of a life devoted to the welfare of the community. Quiet and unassuming, he did not live for himself alone. His sympathy for the unfortunate was frequently demonstrated in a substantial way, and what he did was done without ostentation and without the desire for public notice. Holding fast to the precepts of the Christian religion he made his Christianity an affair of every-day life, and for nobleness of character he merited the highest esteem.

In affairs of business Mr. Derr, with his brothers, did much to give Wilkes-Barre a solid reputation. The insurance firm with which he was connected developed into one of the most important in the State, and, in fact, in the country; and his other local business connections were of large concern.

A community is fortunate in having such men in its midst—men whose vision is broad enough to look out from the narrow sphere and whose natures are large enough to make them well-disposed toward all mankind. The good they do in a material sense is well worth while, but of no small value is the example they set of right living and right doing. When they pass away we recall their activities with full appreciation of the influence they have exerted for the general good. Mr. Derr lived well in the sight of his fellow-men and his memory remains untarnished.

**An Editorial in the Wilkes-Barre Evening News,
November 20, 1915.**

Wilkes-Barre has suffered the loss of many of its big men during the past few years, but none was a more distinguished leader in the business, social and charitable life of the community than the late Andrew Fine Derr. He led a life of intense activity, devoting much of his energy and fine ability unselfishly to the interests of others. His name was prominently associated with every public-spirited movement for the betterment of the community.

Mr. Derr was possessed of a breadth of vision that permitted him as a young man to perceive the future possibilities of this community, and he was ever loyal to it. The fruits borne through his foresight and effort justified his faith. He might be regarded as one of the pioneers in many of the business and financial ventures that contributed so largely toward the rapid development of this city and valley. As a lawyer, financier, business man and leader of affairs, Mr. Derr was successful. Unfaltering sincerity and devotion to duty characterized his entire useful career. The memory of Mr. Derr will be ever cherished by a community that was fully appreciative of his surpassing talents and extraordinary traits of character.

**An Editorial in the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader,
November 20, 1915.**

Once again this community suffers severely at the hands of Death. Andrew F. Derr, after a long life of activity in our midst, passed to his reward last evening. Mr. Derr was a truly representative American citizen, interested in everything for the uplift and betterment of mankind. He was a leader for good in all walks of life, and carried the burdens of such leadership, frequently under most discouraging conditions, with a geniality and worthiness deserving of emulation.

In the many fields of Mr. Derr's activities, his loss will be most keenly felt. He was a wise counsellor and his energy and perseverance an inspiration for all with whom he came in contact. As a character of sterling worth, his life will forever stand out as an example of a true man.

Mr. Derr's death causes grief in the entire community and citizens in general offer their deepest sympathy to those nearest and dearest to him.

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